TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

Circular No. 50 February 1961

Hon. Secretary: David C. A. Wilson
570 Nelson Road, Sandy Bay.

Hon. Treasurer: John Lewis,
Box 880J, G.P.O., Hobart.

The next monthly general meeting of the Club will be held on Thursday, 16th March, 1961 at 8 p.m. in the Royal Society Room, Tasmanian Museum, Argyle Street. After the business of the meeting, Mr. Alan Hewer has kindly agreed to give us an informative talk on "Frogs". After his talk you'll no doubt add frogs to your list of nature studies.

Forward Trips:

Saturday, 18th February: Ralph's Bay Canal, Bay and Lagoons.
As it seems to be so dry everywhere else, we thought you might be interested in accompanying Michael Sharland to Ralphs Bay to study water birds - we hope they turn up for inspection!
A walk around the bay and the various lagoons in the Ralphs Bay Canal area should bring forth some water fowl observations. Michael will meet you outside the "Mercury" office in Macquarie Street at 10 a.m. on Saturday morning. Bring some lunch, thermos etc. and if it is a warm day - your bathing togs. Any members with cars to assist in the short journey to Ralphs Bay will be appreciated.

Saturday, 4th March: South Wellington Gap - Zig-Zag Track - Springs.
Fires and drought have rendered a lot of areas rather dull for field naturalists, so we have listed this trip on the mountain, which still is nice and green. Members' cars will only have to go as far as the Springs, and from there the delightful walk through to the South Wellington Gap and along the Skyline. You are advised to wear stout shoes or boots. Although there is uphill walking for half the trip, it can be taken quite slowly.

John Lewis will be glad to have your company and the party will meet at the Franklin Square seats (in Elizabeth Street) at 10 a.m. Lunches, billies etc. and water or tea should be taken as most streams have dried up.

Members with good memories will be interested to know that a recent visitor to Hobart was Mr. H. J. Overell, once a member of the T.F.N.C. He is now active in the Pittwater Fauna and Flora Protection Society. He told our President, Len Wall, that members here may be interested in attending the Society's Meetings, if in Sydney. It's the 2nd Tuesday, and Mr. Overell's address is 50 Bardo Road, Newport, N.S.W.

It was with great pleasure that we received a Christmas Greetings card from His Excellency the Governor, Lord Rowallan. The Club reciprocated with a card to His Excellency.

In case you chance to notice in your garden or in the bush around Hobart - the Hon. Secretary has had a pair of kookaburras under observation on Mt. Nelson for the past four weeks. So it appears that the birds have perhaps taken up residence permanently in the Hobart area. Although there is some criticism of the birds, it is pleasant to hear their cheery song at dawn and just before dusk.

A committee note: The Committee members wish to express their pleasure in serving you for the past year, and if they fail to be re-elected, thank you for your confidence in them while they were in office.

DAVID WILSON
Hon. Secretary.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

CAMP CIRCULAR. 50 B February 1961

AT SWANSEA, MARCH 30th - APRIL 4th.

The Camp Committee has selected a site for this year's camp at Swansea. The situation, which is an ideal camping spot, is adjacent to the sea shore at the mouth of the Meredith River, and should be popular with members as this is the first time that the Club will have camped on this spot since 1928.

Northern Clubs have been invited to join us on this occasion.

Little time remains to make arrangements, place orders for stores and engage camp staff. Therefore, members will doubtless recognise the urgency of making early bookings. Bookings should be made at once with Mr. H.F.Sargison, 21 Elizabeth St., Hobart, accompanied by a deposit towards camp fees and transport.

Camp Fees (payable in advance) are the same as last year:-

ADULTS - £6.10. 0. SCHOOL CHILDREN (Over 12 years) £5. 0. 0

SCHOOL CHILDREN (Under 12 years) £3.10. 0

Transport of baggage and costs of bus are included in the above.

The Club usually relies on a small team of willing workers to get the Camp ready, but would appreciate more workers in the Advance Party and hopes that other members this year may be able to accompany it. Advance Party members should see Mr. Sargison regarding arrangements as soon as possible.

DATES AND TIMES.

Friday, 24th.March, 2 p.m.)	Volunteers required to help in loading the lorry.
Saturday 25th March, 8 a.m.)	Advance Party leaves for Swansea immediately afterwards.
Thursday, 30th. March, 7 p.m.	Main Party leaves by bus for the 90 mile trip to Swansea. (Assemble at Franklin Square 15 minutes beforehand). Camp should be reached 4 hours later.
Tuesday, 4th.April.	Camp ends; depart for Hobart 2.30 p.m.

Heavy baggage (suitcases, rucksacks, blankets, camp beds) must be delivered to 33 Mortimer Ave, New Town NO LATER THAN MIDDAY, FRIDAY, MARCH 24th. This must be labelled with owner's name and marked "Field Naturalists' Camp". Tie labels on strongly. Light luggage (toilet gear ets.) only can be brought by bus on Thursday night.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET THE DATES AND THE NECESSITY FOR EARLY BOOKING AT "SARGIES"

The Club relies on its members' loyalty and active co-operation to ensure the success of its Easter Camps.

David Wilson.

HON.SECRETARY.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

Circular No. 51. March, 1961.

Hon. Secretary: Kelsey Aves
15, Elizabeth St., Hobart.

Hon. Treasurer: John Lewis
Box 880J, G.P.O., Hobart.

The next monthly general meeting of the Club will be held on Thursday, April 20th at 8 p.m. in the Royal Society Room, Tasmanian Museum, Argyle St.. After the business of the meeting, the speaker will be Mr. T.S. LOFFEL of the Civil Engineering Branch of the H.E.C. and his subject will be water conservation.

FORWARD TRIPS On Saturday, March 18th there will be a trip on the mountain - Myrtle Gully to Junction Cabin and on to New Town Falls. Take 9.50 trolley-bus to Cascades where John Lewis will meet and lead the party. There will be no second outing this month as Easter comes just then.

Dr. Guiler has agreed to take members on a dredging trip on Saturday, April 22nd. An indication of numbers likely to go will be sought at this meeting. Such trips have been very popular in the past.

THE EASTER CAMP is almost upon us. If there is still anyone who wishes to attend the Camp and has not registered yet, please see Mr. Sargison at 21, Elizabeth Street without delay. The advance party leaves on Saturday March 25th. We would remind campers that heavy baggage (suitcases. rucksacks, blankets, camp beds etc.) must be delivered to 33, Mortimer Ave., NO LATER THAN MIDDAY, FRIDAY, MARCH 24TH. Helpers to load the lorry will be appreciated . Helpers on the advance party would also be greatly appreciated and any member who can assist in this should get in touch with Mr. Sargison or Mr. Brownell.

WOPSIE!! After 21 years of immunity from the European wasp (Vespa vulagaris) we slew our first wasp at breakfast on February 26th. What nostalgic memories this inopportune insect brings back! - lazy summer afternoons punting on the upper Thames - inquisitive swans - afternoon teas on the bank with watercress and strawberry jam - "Got you, wopsie"!! Alas, vespa vulgaris is a fruit pest and an all toready stinger. A regrettable immigrant!

CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE Back in the Editorial Chair of the T.F.N.C. Circular, with our feet firmly planted on the mantlepiece and our typewriter tucked behind our ear, we confidently and optimistically await contributions from members of interesting observations or comments for noting in the Circular. They should reach the Secretary-Editor-Office-Boy at 15, Elizabeth Street not later than the Monday before the Club's general meetings.

Kelsey Aves
Hon. Secretary.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

The next General Meeting of the Club will be held on Thursday, May 18th at 8p.m. in the Royal Society Room, Tasmanian Museum, Argyle St. After the General business of the meeting the President, Mr. F. J. Swann, will give a review of the Easter Camp, illustrated by photographs.

FIELD OUTINGS On Saturday, April 22nd, Dr. Guiler has kindly arranged for a party from the Club to go on a dredging trip. Names were collected at the last meeting, but there may be room for one or two more, (adults only). In order to have more time for dredging Dr. Guiler has suggested that members board the boat at Tinder Box at 10.15 approx., so it will be necessary for cars to take the party there. Meet at the Post Office at 9.30 where Mr. Hurburgh will act as leader. If the weather is doubtful ring Mr. Hurburgh at 2 1348, or he will be at the Post Office in any case at 9.30.

The trip on Saturday, May 6th. will be up Mt. Nelson, starting from Ston 19 on the Sandy Bay Road, up Red Chapel Avenue and continuing by the track to the summit. Sandy Bay trolley bus leaving Franklin Square at 10a.m. Bring water.

EASTER CAMP this year was different. For the first time in 30 years or so Sargie was unable to be present owing to indisposition. We missed him very much. However, apart from this disappointment the camp was again a great success, mainly owing to the herculean efforts of Alan Brownell, ably backed by the Camp Committee and the advance party and Mrs. Fleming. They had everything ready by the Thursday evening in spite of unforseen difficulties. More will be said and probably written about the camp, but we feel that we must report a really big THANK YOU to these workers - and also to Fred Pritchett; compere, singer, lorry-loader, and general joy-monger. These and several others deserve the suffix G.C. (Good Camper) after their names. Than which there is no greater compliment.

BUSH FIRES Although the bush fire problem has seemed almost insoluble, one very practical step was taken by the Tasmanian Timber Association in calling to a conference representatives of almost every organization intimately or remotely interested in control of bush fires. We believe that the horizons of all who attended were broadened by interchange of views and the problems brought into better persoective. These, with resolutions passed at the meeting, will form a basis for more realistic and co-ordinated action in future.

Hon. Treasurer Mr. John Lewis,
Box 880J P.O.,
HOBART.

Hon. Secretary Mr. Kelsey Aves,
15 Elizabeth St.,
HOBART.

CIRCULAR No. 53. May 1961.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING of the Club will be held on Thursday, June 15th at 8p.m. in the Royal Society Room, Tasmanian Museum, Argyle St.. It will take the form of a Members' Night, an annual feature of the Club which is always very enjoyable and profitable. 5 to 15 minute talks are wanted on any branch of natural history or allied subjects. They may be illustrated or not, as the speaker wishes. This is an excellent opportunity for all members, but especially the younger ones. Will those who wish to speak please notify the President, Mr. Swann, or the Secretary.

FIELD OUTINGS On Saturday, 20th May, it is proposed that there should be a trip to Mt. Field National Park, in the hope that there will still be autumn colouring on the deciduous beech - and perhaps the call of the lyre-bird. However, this trip will depend on the number of cars going, and if there is an insufficient muster, the party will go to Ralphs Bay instead by bus. So meet at the back of the City Hall in Collins St. at 8.45. Then if necessary we can catch the 9 a.m. bus from there to Ralphs Bay.

On Saturday, June 3rd, Mr. Wall will lead a ramble to Grass Tree Hill. Take Risdon Vale bus, leaving Argyle/Davey St. at 9.30. Alight at the jail.

EASTER CAMP REUNION It is proposed to hold a Reunion at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Widdicombe, 50 Mawhera Ave., Sandy Bay, on Saturday, June 24th at 8p.m.. Bring a 'basket' and some of your 'photos of the Camp.

BEETLES Dr. Thyne reports "This summer was a very happy one for Christmas Beetles (Choerocoris Paganus). Why? Because Native Hops(Dodonea Viscosa) had a wonderful flowing season. Last summer it did not flower at all, and so no lovely beetles. For weeks all stages of development were seen - from minute to full size beetles. "Mrs." was seen tugging "Mr." obediently but backwards after her for days on end. Many drying moulted cases could be seen attached to grass stems. Now they are hibernating. This exquisite little bug is not a pest as it lives on box, grasses and plantains."

REVERIE High up at the top of Sargison City (33, Mortimer Ave.) one recent Saturday morning, waiting (characteristically) for a working bee to turn up (it had turned up the day before), we wondered what the thoughts would be of a Martian or Venusian who might visit Earth in a couple of hundred years, after Earth's inhabitants had all migrated to Mars or Venus, or wherever. Surveying the mighty Sargison City with all its hundreds (almost) of commodius buildings, storehouses, workshops, flats, dance-halls, garages, cranes, railway systems, runways, skidways, byeways, zoological gardens (steel and concrete cages evidently intended for tigers, monkeys and elephants, but apparently used for domestic hens) - its miles (almost) of stone terracing, stairways, balustrades, lamp-posts, lawns, vegetable and flower gardens - surveying all these and lots more that we can't for the moment remember, this Martian might well say to himself - or to the Venusian with him - "How could an ordinary mortal, without atomic power, build such an astonishing metropolis?" And perhaps Venus might say "Well, Mars, he must have had a very lively imagination and energy far beyond that normally expended by Earth's inhabitants at that time." And how right she would have been!

And since a large part of this construction work has gone into storage of F. N. camping gear, Club members feel very proud and grateful to Sargie and his wonderful City.

Hon. Treasurer Mr. John Lewis
Box 880J, P.O.
Hobart.

Hon. Sec. Mr. Kelsey Aves
15 Elizabeth St.
Hobart.

CIRCULAR No. 54. June. 1961.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING of the Club will be held on Thursday, July 20th, at 8p.m. in the Royal Society's Room, Tasmanian Museum, Argyle Street. At the conclusion of general business, there will be an illustrated talk on 'Spiders', by Dr. Noel Sullivan, of the Burnie Field Naturalists Club. Easter campers will remember the interesting talks and demonstrations given by Dr. Sullivan at the Camp and will look forward to hearing him again.

FIELD OUTINGS. The new method of distributing the Circular saves the club a good deal of work and money in postage, but it has meant that members who were not able to be present at meetings have received their circular too late for details of the first outing. The Committee has therefore decided to post-date each outing by one week, so that there will be plenty of notice. So, the first outing this month will be on Saturday, June 24th to Rocky Whelan's Cave. Catch 10.2 bus from Franklin Square to Dynnyrne. Bring a torch. Leader - Mr. A. Hewer. The second outing will be to St. Crispin's Well on July 8th. Catch Fern Tree bus leaving Franklin Square at 10.0 and alight at Terminus. Travellers by car meet the bus at the terminus. Leader - Mr. K. Aves.

EASTER CAMP REUNION. Campers are reminded of the Reunion to be held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Widdicombe, 50 Mawhera Av., on Saturday, June 24th at 8p.m. Bring a contribution to supper and some of your more light-hearted slides, if you have any.

SUBSCRIPTIONS There are still a few subs. outstanding and if there is a cross by this paragraph you should see the Hon. Treasurer about it. A gentle reminder that this is the last Circular that can be posted to non-financial members.

YOUTH HOSTELS ASSOCIATION The Committee has decided to terminate the Club's affiliation to the Y.H.A. as very few members use the hostels. Will those who wish to continue membership of Y.H.A., do so direct with them.

MIGRATION OF MOUNTAINEERS Black jays usually inhabit the 2000' and above zone, but in and around our garden in Sandy Bay, only 200' above sea level, a flock of black jays about 20 strong has settled down for the last 2 or 3 weeks. They have lived on apples and almonds. On being told to 'boo' or 'Shoo', even from a distance of 3 feet or so, they have often refused to do either, and in reply have even regurgitated our own apples at our own feet. We feel they must be bodgie or widgie types. One of their softer and apparently more intimate cries imitates almost exactly the tuning up note of Antony Peter, our 3 weeks onld grandson, thus causing our heart to leap into our mouth at the thought of a feed being wanted perhaps hours before the proper time. While their normal call brings back nostalgic memories of happy holidays amongst the high places, we shall be somewhat relieved when these misguided mountaineers return to their alpine fastnesses.

Hone. Treasurer Mr. John Lewis.
Box 880J. P.O.
Hobart.

Hon. Sec. Mr. Kelsey Aves,
15 Elizabeth St.
Hobart.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

The last outing - in two episodes

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING of the Club will be held on Thursday, Aug 17 ~~July 20~~th at 8p.m. in the Royal Society Room, Tasmanian Museum, Argyle Street. The speaker will be Mr. K. D. Nicolls, B.Sc. of C.S.I.R.O. and he will be speaking on the subject of 'Soils'.

FIELD OUTINGS On Saturday, July 29th, the excursion will be from Fern Tree to Kingston via Summerleas Road. Take 10a.m. bus to Fern Tree Hotel. Return by bus from Kingston.

On Saturday, August 12th, the outing will be to St. Crispin's Well, the outing originally planned for July 8th, but cancelled because of the weather. The arrangements will be as before - Fern Tree bus leaving Franklin Sq. at 10a.m. Alight at terminus. Travellers by car meet the bus at the terminus. If the weather is doubtful, ring the leader, Mr. Aves, 51742, or meet at Franklin Square.

On the cancelled trip four hardy spirits turned up and it seemed advisable to check that no cars had gone to the terminus, so we did, became temporarily snowed in at Neika and were later hospitably entertained at St. Chad, where the birds were even more plentiful and hungry than usual.

NEXT MONTH Advance notice is given of a laboratory demonstration at the University, kindly arranged for our benefit by Professor Clark of the Faculty of Zoology. The date is August 28th (Sat) and the time 2p.m. Further detials will be given in next month's Circular.

PRECURSORS OF SPRING, TRA-LA. July 17th, 5.30p.m., first noted full spring song of the blackbird which inhabits the courtyard of the Waterworth building. Pest or not, we love him..... japonicas, prunus, jonquils, daphne... allthose lovely flowers which remind us that spring is on the way..... Incidentally, black jays are down at sea-level at Taroona and around at times in Sandy Bay. Where else?

"The nightingale breathes such sweet loud music out of her little instrumental throat, that it might make mankind to think Miracles are not ceased."

Isaac Walton

Or the blackbird or lyrebird.....?

Hon. Treas. Mr. John Lewis
Box 880J, P.O.
Hobart

Hon. Sec. Mr. Kelsey Aves
15, Elizabeth St.
Hobart

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB.

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING of the club will be held on Thursday, September 21st, at 8p.m. in the Royal Society Rooms, Tasmanian Museum, Argyle Street. Mr. Hewer will be showing films produced by a Victorian film unit. Mr. Hewer assured us that these are amongst the best natural history films he has ever seen. "The Edge of the Deep" is mainly concerned with the waders and "Rark" is the life story of the wedge tailed eagle. It is probable that there will also be a film on the research work done at Kew Gardens, London.

FIELD OUTINGS The laboratory demonstration, which was to have been given by Professor Clark on August 28th, has had to be postponed and notice of this will be given later in the year. Therefore, the outing planned for August 28th now will be a day walk to Cobbs Hill and down to the Derwent. Orchids, perhaps and bitterns - more perhaps, though we did see one once on this trip. It may be twice shy now. 10.0 o'clock train to Bridgewater.

On Saturday, September 9th to South Arm for orchids, wattles, ducks and waders. Private transport. Meet near Prince Theatre, 9.30a.m.

WORD FROM THE OUTBACK - extract from a letter to the Secretary from Mr. Sharland, then at Alice Springs:

> "Birdlife is fascinating, of course. Four days last week I had a wonderful trip some 200 miles S.W. from here. Main object was to see the "Extinct" night parrot, claimed to have been rediscovered in that region. But I also visited Kings Canyon, a really wonderful feature just opened as the newest tourist "find" in the Centre. No parrots, however, but quite a few of another species, the very rare Bourke parrot, also at one time considered to be about extinct.
>
> Rugged and very colourful ranges surround Alice Springs and they change colour every hour. But no permanent water for miles; the lovely Todd river runs as merely a river of loose sand through a line of noble white-stemmed red gums."

-oOo-

> "Suffering? it springs not from the soil,
> trouble grows not from the ground;
> man brings trouble on himself ..... Job 5. 6-7
> (Moffat)

-oOo-

Hon. Treasurer Mr. John Lewis
Box 880J P.O.
Hobart.

Hon. Sec. Mr. Kelsey Aves,
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Hobart.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING of the club will be held on Thursday, October 19th at 8 p.m. in the Royal Society Room, Tasmanian Museum, Argyle Street. Mr. H. J. King, President of the Launceston Field Naturalists' Club will give an illustrated talk on the Eucalypts of Tasmania. Mr. King has a well deserved reputation as a nature photographer and members will look forward to seeing his pictures and hearing his address.

FIELD OUTINGS On Saturday, September 30th on the hills around Rosetta. Catch 10 a.m. Rosetta bus from Opposite G.P.O.. Alight at Katoomba Cres. (1st turning on left up Marys Hope Road) where we meet the leader, Mr. F. Swann.

On Saturday, October 14th, to Carlton. Private transport. Meet at Prince Theatre and leave there 9.30 prompt. There is much of marine interest on the beach, a big midden on Steeles Island or orchids in the bush if you are so inclined. Tank water available. Leader, Mrs. Thorpe.

ATTENTION BIRD LOVERS On Friday evening, 29th September, at 8 p.m. a meeting will be held at the Tasmanian Museum for those interested in birds, and it is intended to hold these in future at two-monthly intervals. These will be arranged by the Bird Observers' Club and R.A.O.U., both Australia-wide organisations, but visitors are always welcomed. If any of our members would like to attend, or to receive notices of future meetings, please contact Leonard Wall.

HERE & THERE A few black jays are still with us in the lowlands ..... a kookaburra reported recently in Hobart ....., a white headed blackbird in St. David's Park was chasing a female on August 24th, but she would have none of him - too piebald to be loved or just feminine coyness? ..... we noted on TV the other night that a bird bander in Victoria finds hypnosis of white eyes handy.

FROM THE "GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE" 1789 From a review by Thomas White, F.R.S. of the work of his brother, Rev. Gilbert White 'The Natural History of Selborne - "contemplative persons see with regret the country more and more deserted every day, ------ It is with pleasure, therefore, we observe, that so rational an employment of leisure time as the study of nature, promises to become popular; since whatever adds to the number of rural amusements, and consequently counteracts the allurements of the metropolis, is, on this consideration, of national importance."

Hon. Treasurer Mr. John Lewis,
Box 880J,
Hobart.

Hon. Secretary Kelsey Aves
15 Elizabeth St.
Hobart.

CIRCULAR NO. 58 October 1961.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB.

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING of the Club (and the last for this year) will be held on Thursday, November 16th at 8.0 p.m. in the Royal Society Room, Tasmanian Museum, Argyle Street. The Speaker will be Mr. L. W. Miller, M. Agr. Sc., F.R.E.S., Government Entomologist, and he will be speaking on "Insects in Tasmania", a subject with which we are constantly faced, but on which we don't often have expert information.

FIELD OUTINGS On Saturday, October 28th. Mr. Swann will lead an outing to the Botanical Gardens - a change from the usual type of field excursion, but there is plenty of interesting native and exotic material within the gardens and they are too rarely visited by most people. Meet at the lower gate near the railway station at 10.10a.m.. A train leaves Hobart at 10.0 o'clock for those who don't feel up to the walk from the City. Lunch will be taken by the river-side.

On Saturday, November 11th, Mr. Wall will lead a ramble on the lower slopes around Lenah Valley, an area of considerable and varied interest to naturalists. Take the 9.57a.m. Lenah Valley bus to Barossa Road, where Mr. Wall will meet the party. He reminds us again of the need for the party to keep together to avoid the possibility of any member being unaccounted for at the end of the trip.

THE CARLTON EXCURSION on October 14th, was attended by a large number of members and friends and was a most enjoyable day. The gathering for morning tea, kindly provided by our host and hostess, Mr. & Mrs. Westwood, the large party moving off, the nearby country, the estuary and the beach, all tended to give an impression of an excursion from an Easter Camp. We are very grateful indeed to our host and hostess and to the leader, Mrs. Thorpe.

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Hon. Treasurer Mr. John Lewis, Box 880J P.O., Hobart.

Hon. Secretary Mr. Kelsey Aves, 15 Elizabeth St., Hobart.

TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALIST'S CLUB.

THE MEETING TONIGHT is the last one for this year, and the Annual General Meeting of the Club will be held on Thursday, Feb. 15th, 1962, at 8 p.m.. A notice of this meeting will be sent to all members within a fortnight of that date, but members should remember that the election of officers and committee will take place at that meeting and it is hoped that serious thought will be given to this matter during the recess. The success of the Club depends on all of its members, but especially on those whom you elect as officers. The offices to be filled are President, 2 vice-presidents, secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer and six members of committee. Nomination forms will be included in the Notice of Meeting, but don't wait till then to think about your nomination.

FIELD OUTINGS On Saturday, 25th November on the tracks half-way up the mountain - Botts Vale, O'Grady's Falls, etc.. Birds, flowers, ferns, mosses and such. 10 a.m. Fern Tree bus; alight at junction of Strickland Avenue and Huon Road. Leader - Mrs. Boden.

On 9th December, Mr. J. L. Hickman, Lecturer in Zoology at the University of Tasmania, will lead an excursion also on the lower slopes of the mountain. Special interest will be the terrestrial invertebrates of a fairly exposed area of the mountain and the small area of rain-forest around the Shoobridge track. 10 a.m. Fern Tree bus to Fern Tree Hotel, returning from the same stop.

FIRE No doubt by the time these excursions take place, a fire danger period will have been declared and, especially in view of the efforts of this Club to awaken the public to the tragedy of bush fires, it behoves members to set the best possible example in this matter.

BIRD WATCHERS Meeting of R.A.O.U. & Bird Observers Club members on Friday, 24th November. Would those interested in attending please contact Len Wall. Bill Mollison will talk on black jays.

NEW YEAR 30th Dec. - 1st Jan.. If sufficient people are interested a camp may be held at Coles Bay during this period. Please contact John Lewis.

JANUARY LONG WEEK-END - Jan. 27th - 29th. A camp has been suggested at Lune River. Again contact John Lewis.

FEDERATION CAMP - CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR The Federation of Field Naturalist's Clubs is holding its camp at Maria Island. The use of the old boarding-house (unfurnished) at Darlington has been obtained and members attending will need to bring all the food they require for the whole week (there are no shops on Maria Island) and also bedding, etc..

A boat will leave Orford on Boxing Day at 12 noon and the return will be on Jan. 2nd. The trip will cost 10/-d each way. The boat will take 20 people, but if there are more, it will make a second trip.

Please notify Dr. Noel Sullivan, 18 Aileen Crescent, Burnie as soon as possible, if you wish to go.

REPERTOIRE Outside the editorial window in the courtyard behind 15 Elizabeth Street, we heard this morning a noisy miner, a green rosella and a black cockatoo - quite unmistakably one after the other. Equally unmistakably it couldn't be, so we poked the editorial head out of the window and came face to face with the starling responsible.

Hon. Treas. Mr. John Lewis
Box. No. 880J
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Hon. Sec. Mr. Kelsey Ayers
15 Elizabeth St.
Hobart.